

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the May 12, 2011 interview. In the interview, claims 22, 27 and 28, Figure 4, and the cited prior art of Beres, Clarke and Tibbals were discussed. In particular, the amount and type of detail to include in the claims to distinguish over the cited prior art was discussed, along with drawing amendments and new matter objections. No agreement was reached on the claims.

Claims 22, 27 and 28 were examined in the Office Action. Claims 2-7, 9-20 and 23-26 are currently withdrawn. Claims 1, 8, 21 and 29 were previously canceled.

Claims 27 and 28 are canceled. Thus, any objection to these claims is moot.

Claim 22 is amended to clarify that the lateral bore comprises a longitudinal axis passing through the two ends of the bore, and the cylindrical element comprises a beveled or rounded end that is inserted into the lateral bore and is non-symmetrical about a plane passing through the longitudinal axis and perpendicular to the axial bore. Support for the amendments is found in Figure 4, and paragraphs [0012] and [0038] of the published application.

New claims 30-32 are added. Support for claims 30 and 31 is found in paragraph [0038] of the published application. Support for claim 32 is found in the last sentence of paragraph [0012] and in paragraph [0038] of the published application.

Section 102

The rejection of claim 22 as anticipated by Beres et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,393,844) is respectfully traversed. The cited prior art does not describe all features of the claims.

Current claim 22 recites a lateral bore that extends through the spray head and comprising two ends and a longitudinal axis passing through the two ends. By contrast, although the combination of bores 26 and 34 in Beres might viewed as extending through the spray head, the combination does not have a longitudinal axis that passes through the ends of the combination.

Further, bore 26 alone does not extend through the spray head and so does not meet the claim features.

As for bore 34, although it might be viewed as extending through the spray head, the adjustment device 36 associated with the bore does not have a beveled or rounded end that is inserted into the lateral bore and that is non-symmetrical about a plane passing through the longitudinal axis of the lateral bore and perpendicular to the axial bore. For example, in contrast to claim 22, end 48 is symmetrical about a plane passing through the longitudinal axis and perpendicular to the axial bore 19. Because Beres fails to teach or suggest all features of the claim, claim 22 is neither anticipated nor obvious in light of the cited reference.

Moreover, claim 22 is not anticipated or obvious in view of Clarke (U.S. Patent No. 248,555). In particular, Clarke describes an adjustment device B having a straight end b that is symmetrical about a plane passing through the longitudinal axis and perpendicular to the axial bore c'. As such, claim 22 is patentable over Clarke.

Furthermore, claim 22 is not anticipated or obvious in view of Tibbals (U.S. Patent No. 1,214,971). Tibbals describes an adjustment device 15 that is a needle valve. The shape of the needle valve is not apparent from the figures or description in Tibbals, although there is no indication that the needle valve has a non-symmetrical end. Indeed, a needle valve is typically symmetrical around its longitudinal axis. Because Tibbals fails to describe an adjustment device having an end that is non-symmetrical about a plane passing through the longitudinal axis of the lateral bore 18,19 and perpendicular to the axial bore 16, claim 22 is patentable over Tibbals.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the present claims are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized during prosecution of this application and any related appeal, to charge any fees that may be required (except for patent issue fees required under 37 CFR §1.18) or to credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-3881, under Order No. 7472-104. If an extension of time is required in connection with this paper, please consider this a Petition therefor and charge any fees required to Deposit Account No. 50-3881, under Order No. 7472-104

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Respectfully submitted,

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